
THE ACTS CHURCH 2:42
"EXPERIENCE REAL CHURCH"

April 20, 2014

TEXT: *MATTHEW 28:1-20 KJV*

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. (2) And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. (3) His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: (4) And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. (5) And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. (6) He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. (7) And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you. (8) And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word. (9) And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. (10) Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me. (11) Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. (12) And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, (13) Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. (14) And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. (15) So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day. (16) Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. (17) And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. (18) And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. (19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (20) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

INTRO: *He Is Risen INDEED!*

During the past few years attacks ON **CHRIST'S RESURRECTION** HAVE INCREASED FROM **THE DIVINCI CODE** TO THE **ALLEGED FINDING OF JESUS' TOMB** AND **THE BONES OF JESUS**

SOME HAVE SAID THAT IT IS NOT IMPORTANT. . . ***THAT IF JESUS WAS NOT BODILY RESURRECTED THEIR FAITH IS STILL IN HIS DEATH AND FORGIVENESS!!!*** "???????"

Well Not According To The Word Of God!

1 Corinthians 15:17-20

And if Christ is ***not risen***, your faith is futile; ***you are still in yor sins***! (18) Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. (19) ***If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable***. (20) But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

If Christ is not raised from the dead, if His bones are buried somewhere in Palestine, ***Then We Cannot Know Him***. That man is dead. We might read about Him, we might revere Him, ***But We Cannot Know Him***.

Christianity is not a religion based on abstract principles. ***Christianity is a relationship*** with a living Savior, ***a Savior we can know***, a Savior who infuses our life and empowers us, who ***transforms us into His likeness***.

I. *Do Not Be Afraid – He Is Risen!*

Matthew 28:5-6

But the angel answered and said to the women, "***Do not be afraid***, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. (6) ***He is not here; for He is risen, as He said***. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

1 Corinthians 15:1-8 — The Gospel in a nutshell

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, (2) by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you - unless you believed in vain. (3) For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that ***Christ died for our sins*** according to the Scriptures, (4) and that ***He was buried***, and that ***He rose again the third day*** according to the Scriptures, (5) and that ***He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve***. (6) After that ***He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once***, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. (7) After that ***He was seen by James, then by all the apostles***. (8) Then last of all ***He was seen by me also***, as by one born out of due time.

Acts 2:22-24 — @ Pentecost

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know (23) Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, ***you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death***: (24) whom ***God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.***

Acts 3:12-16

So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? ***Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?*** (13) The ***God*** of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, ***glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied*** in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go. (14) But ***you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you***, (15) ***and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.*** (16) And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Acts 4:8-12

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: (9) If we this day are judged for a good deed done to a

helpless man, by what means he has been made well, (10) ***let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth***, **whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead**, ***by Him this man stands here before you whole***. (11) This is the 'STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED BY YOU BUILDERS, WHICH HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE.' (12) ***Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved***."

II. *To Know Him In The Power of His Resurrection*

Philippians 3:7-11 KJV

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. (8) Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, (9) And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: (10) ***That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection***, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; (11) If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

"**I want to *know Christ*...**" Paul's primary desire: **To know the *living*, the *resurrected* Christ, and *to know the power associated with that resurrection.* *Paul writes to the Ephesians***

Ephesians 1:15-21

Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, (16) do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: (17) that the ***God*** of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, ***may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him***, (18) the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; ***that you may know what is the hope of His calling***, what are ***the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints***, (19) and

what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, **according to the working of His mighty power** (20) **which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, (21) far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

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III. *Let Not Our Heart Be Troubled*

John 14:1-3 +6

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. (2) In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. ….

(6) Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 KJV

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (18) And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; (19) To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. (20) Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. (21) ***For he hath made him to***

be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

HEBREWS 9:27-28 KJV

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but ***after this*** the judgment: (28) So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him ***shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation***.

